

## BRAIN PUZZLERS

Questions Submitted At the Examination Of Teachers.

MADE UP BY STATE COMMISSIONER

Examination Tests for Teachers in Elementary Schools—By Their Answers to These Questions Those Who Desire to Teach Show Whether They Are Grounded in the Rudiments of Education.

Following is the list of questions as prepared under direction of the state commissioner of public schools, and submitted at the county examination for teachers May 4 for elementary school certificates:

### THEORY AND PRACTICE.

The first five questions are based upon Rational Living by Henry C. King. 1. Objectivity is an essential condition of both character and happiness. Explain what King means by "objectivity" and why it is an essential condition of character and happiness. 2. How does the drudgery of our daily tasks educate us? 3. Mention as many proofs as you can to show that man is essentially a social being, i. e., that his personal relations with others play a most important part in his life. 4. What duties toward our fellow beings does the very recognition of this social spirit in man impose upon us? 5. "Personal association is the one great hopeful means of character." What ought this to mean to you in your chosen profession of teaching? 6. What principle of teaching do you violate when you ask a child to memorize a definition before he understands it? 7. Name some ways in which a teacher may help to strengthen the memory of a pupil? 8. What good results should pupils gain by being required to reproduce reading lessons in their own language? 9. Mention all legal holidays occurring during the school year. 10. Do you believe in a system of monthly reports of pupils' standing to parents? Why or why not?

### ARITHMETIC.

1. The battle of Manila (121°20'E.) began at 5:41 a. m., Sunday, May 1. What was the time at Washington (77°3'W.) when the battle began? 2. If I exchange 48 shares of a 9% stock at 176 for U. S. \$4 at 116½, how much must I add to my investment to secure the same income? 3. What is the difference between the true and the bank discount of \$300, due 6 months hence, at 6%? 4. Find the cost of flooring for a building 25 by 70 feet, the building being 3 stories high and the flooring 1½ inches thick, at \$19.10 per M. 5. A rectangular field containing 8 acres is 32 rods wide. How much will it cost to construct a ditch from one corner to the diagonally opposite corner at \$3 per rod? 6. Define notation; numeration; mensuration. 7. If the interest on \$450 for 2 yrs. 4 mos. is \$52.50, what will be the interest on \$200 for 4 yrs. 4 mos. 20 das. at the same rate? 8. Mr. Hallam deposited 85% of his money in a bank, and afterward drew out 20% of the sum deposited, and then had \$3859 in the bank. What was the amount of his money? 9. At what rate will \$712 earn \$142.40 in 2 yrs. 4 mos.? 10. Find the area of a right triangle, base 23.1 ft., altitude 32.1 ft.

### GRAMMAR.

1. Breathes there a man with soul so dead. 2. Who never to himself hath said, "This is my own, my native land!" 3. Whose heart hath ne'er within him burned, As home his footsteps he hath turned From wandering on a foreign strand? 4. If such there be, go, mark him well, For him no minstrel raptures swell, High though his robes be rich, and wide, Boundless his wealth as wish can claim; 5. Despite those titles, power, and pelf, The wretch concentred all in self, Living, shall forfeit fair renown, And, doubly dying, shall go down To the vile dust from whence he sprung, Unwept, unhonored, and unsung. —SCOTT.

All of the questions in this list are based upon the selection given above. 1. What words, necessary to the analysis of the sentences, are understood in lines 4, 9 and 10? What is the omission of these words called? 2. Name (as to unmodified subject and predicate of principal clause) and classify (as to both form and use) each sentence. 3. Classify all subordinate clauses as adjective, objective or adverbial, and attach each to the word it modifies. 4. Give all the modifiers of shall forfeit (13) and shall go (14). 5. In what mode and tense is each of the following verbs: hath said (2), be (7), can claim (10), shall forfeit (13), sprung (15)? 6. (a) Explain the form of the auxiliary in hath burned (4) and in shall go (14). (b) Parse mark (7). 7. Point out all participial uses. 8. Select five different adverbs and tell to what class each belongs. 9. (a) Give an example of every class of pronoun found in the selection. (b) Parse home (5) and as (10). 10. What part of speech is each of the following: there (1), this (8), ne'er (4), as (5), such (7), minstrel (8), though (9), despite (11), and (12), whence (15).

### WRITING.

For this branch examiners will grade the manuscript in orthography.

### ORTHOGRAPHY.

1. Write five prefixes in common use and give the meaning of each. 2. What is a compound word? Is the present day tendency in spelling

for or against the use of the hyphen? 3. Distinguish between the words in the following pairs: mandate, command; desire, yearning; hazardous, foolhardy; book, pamphlet; disturbance, riot. 4. Write five diacritical marks in common use and state the function of each. This slip is to be detached and the words are to be pronounced by the examiner. 5. Advice, anchor, appeal, apparent, acidity, evergreen, exonerate, exaggerate, eyelid, erroneous, industrious, induce, implaceable, irate, immoderate, overtone, officious, ogre, onerous, obliging, usury, ultimate, unique, unctuous, unraveled.

### PHYSIOLOGY.

1. Explain how oxidation takes place, and what are its results in the body. 2. What is a secretion? Name all secretions concerned in the digestion. 3. How is the peristaltic movement of the stomach caused? What is its effect? 4. Expectoration in public places is to be condemned as a disgusting habit. Upon what other grounds is it condemnable? 5. Locate the atlas. Why is it so called? 6. Tell all you can of the nature and number of the perspiratory glands. What is the value of perspiration to the body? 7. Define the following: plasma, diastole, pulse. 8. What does the Eustachian tube connect? 9. What are the principal constituents of tobacco? What effect, if any, does tobacco have upon heart action? 10. What are stimulants? Name some. Why should they be avoided?

### UNITED STATES HISTORY AND CIVIL GOVERNMENT.

1. Give a brief history of the English settlement at Jamestown in 1607. 2. Give the distinguishing features of colonial government in Massachusetts and in Virginia. 3. Describe Washington's career prior to the Revolution. 4. On what occasions during the Revolution was the aid rendered by the French most beneficial to the colonists? 5. How did the United States suffer from the war waged between England and France during Jefferson's administration? 6. Give the location of Gettysburg and state the importance and outcome of the Gettysburg campaign in the Civil War. 7. How were the seceding states governed immediately after the Civil War? 8. What method was employed to settle the Hayes-Tilden election dispute? 9. Give the substance of two amendments to the Constitution that have to do with the negro. 10. Explain what is meant by the Civil Service. What are its advantages?

### READING.

Examiners will conduct an oral examination in reading.

### LITERATURE.

1. What is literature? Name three works of literature written in ancient times. 2. Tell what you can of the character and value of the writings of Cotton Mather and Jonathan Edwards. 3. Who do you consider the first American poet of importance? Give reason. Name one of his poems. 4. Name, with their authors, five classics that belong to the literature of American patriotism. 5. What five men are frequently called the great American poets? Quote at least five lines from the writings of one of them to show his fondness for nature. 6. Give an adequate outline of one of the following poems and tell what was the poet's special purpose, if any, in writing the poem: The Vision of Sir Launfal, The Courtship of Miles Standish, Snow-bound. 8. Contrast Francis Parkman with George Bancroft as to period covered and methods of presenting historical material. 9. Who wrote the Vicar of Wakefield? What constitutes the enduring charm of the book? 10. To what class of literature does Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress belong?

### GEOGRAPHY.

1. Over what circle on the earth's surface are the rays of the sun vertical on March 22, June 21? 2. Name six states, besides Ohio, through which the fortieth parallel passes. 3. On what body of water is each of the following cities located: Bismarck, Vera Cruz, Singapore, Trieste, Seattle? 4. How is petroleum obtained from the earth and made marketable? Name at least two countries in which it is found. 5. Name two cities which, although in the same latitude, have greatly differing climates and account for this difference. 6. Why is England especially suited to be a manufacturing country? 7. Describe and account for the uneven distribution of population in Australia. 8. Mention two important articles of export from Sweden, Uruguay, Iceland, Greece, Siam. 9. Ireland and discuss its manufactures. 10. Describe and account for the peculiarities of the mountain population of Tennessee and Kentucky.

### Badly Expressed.

At a public dinner in an English city the toast of "Army, navy and reserve forces" was proposed in rather unusual terms. In submitting the toast the chairman said: "This is a toast which requires very little comment from me, as the subject is one with which you are all familiar. The army and navy have been drunk for many years, and the reserve forces have now been drunk for something over twenty years."

### Female Immigration.

"It is amazing," says an Ellis island official, "what a wonderful increase there has been in the immigration of women during the past fourteen years. Fourteen years ago—yes, even ten years ago—fully two-thirds of the women who arrived came as dependents. Today two-thirds of them make their own living."

## MORE TAX IDEAS

State Senator Howe Talks On Three General Features.

Home Rule, Quadrennial Property Valuations and Franchise Taxes Are Subjects He Discusses.

(An address before the Ohio Tax Commission by Senator Frederick C. Howe. Hearing March 12, 1907.)

I have not attempted in this argument to take up the subject in all of its bearings. I have been content with three general features: The taxation of those corporations that enjoy franchises, the question of the decennial valuation of property, advocating a revaluation of real property in the state every four years, and local option, or local home rule in taxation. The taxation of corporations, of competitive character, seems to me to be very adequately cared for in the Willis bill; but the other class, the franchise corporations, steam railroads, telegraphs, telephones, express companies, street railways, gas, electric lighting, water companies, all of which are privileged enterprises, whose value exists because of a grant from the city, or some privileges which they enjoy from the state. Corporations of this sort are both inadequately taxed as compared with the same class of property in other states.

The present method of valuation of railroads was adopted many years ago, possibly at the time the constitution was adopted, when there was no very great difference in property. It was all visible and accessible. We got our taxing system under those circumstances and we have not substantially altered it from that day to this. In the meantime immense corporations have come into existence, and are still taxed on what is really a scrap basis, they are assessed piecemeal. The assessment of a railroad is made by the county auditors. There is no attempt under the law to get at the railroad as a unit, as a complete earning capacity; no attempt to get at its stock and bond value; no attempt to reach its franchise at all. The same is true of street railways, gas companies and all franchise corporations.

In many other states, probably a dozen or fifteen, the Ohio method of valuing merely the physical property has been abandoned for what is generally spoken of as the franchise tax. The interstate commerce commission made a report of the amount of taxes paid by the railroads in the United States, including excise, license, real estate, or any tax which they pay. From the report of 1905, which is found in Statistics of railways, page 30, it appears that the railways of Massachusetts, for instance, pay \$1,472 per mile of single track; of Connecticut, \$1,259; Rhode Island, \$1,019; District of Columbia, \$1,349; and of New Jersey, where the entire state seems to be organized by a movement for taxation of railways—it has been the most important issue in their politics for two or three years—and so far as I know nobody questions but what the railways there are very lowly taxed—but in New Jersey they pay \$18.00 per mile single track; while in Ohio, on the other hand, the total tax on the railways is \$45.00 per mile single track.

The Decennial Valuation of Property. At the present time we assess real property once every ten years. It is assessed by local assessors, elected from every ward and township. That is a survival from the time when this was an agricultural state; there were no great cities, and it was probably suggested by the fact that in New York, and many of the states, instead of assessing land and improvements every ten years, they are assessed every year. In almost all states they assess at least once in every three years. We assess once in every ten years. At the last session of the assembly I asked the auditor of a number of counties to aid me in the preparation of a bill dealing with this question; and from whatever section, or county they came they told the same story, that the last reapportionment of 1900 was most unequal. They told of property on opposite sides of the same street assessed at 10 per cent and some at 100 per cent of its value. But ten years is not often enough to assess property which is changing in value as rapidly as much of the property in Ohio is. We have, if I recollect rightly, 56 towns or cities. We probably have more big towns than any other state in the Union, ranging from half a million down to 50,000. In these big cities land values change very rapidly; and yet under our laws today there is no means by which land can be gotten on the tax duplicate.

### Home Rule in Taxation.

Some years ago there was submitted to the voters of this state a constitutional amendment which exempted securities of counties and cities from taxation. At the last session of the assembly a resolution was introduced to put the constitution back in its former condition. At the same time the Ohio State Board of Commerce had a resolution which it was urging, providing for some sort of classification of property, so that it would be possible for us to do as they do in Pennsylvania, where they put personal property on the duplicate at 4 mills, and I think they get as big a revenue at 4 mills as we do at 25. I worked over that measure with some members of the senate last winter and finally drafted a substitute to the tax clause of the constitution, Article XII, Section 2, which adds to the section as it existed up to the time of the last amendment, provision for local option. It leaves the constitutional provision just as it is at the present time; but adds the proviso that electors of any county may classify property and tax it at such a rate as they may see fit or exempt it from taxation altogether. The purpose of that is to give each county absolute control over taxation, to give them full authority to do with it as they see fit, to exempt such property as they see fit and work out the local questions and relieve the legislature. If the counties believe they can reduce the rate of interest they pay on mortgages by exempting them, they can do it; if they wish to tax them at 4 mills they can do it; if they believe they can reach personal property by placing it on the tax duplicate at 4 mills or 3 mills or any rate they see fit, they can do it by submitting the matter to their own electors.

### A Significant Prayer.

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## MUNICIPAL UNLUNACY.

Edited by JOHN KENDRICK BANGS.

The citizens of New London, Mo., recently declared against municipal ownership by a vote of 163 to 2. Thus again do we find the people deprived of their rights by a corporation ridden majority.

We do not credit the report that New York intends to place its most accomplished bunks steers in the pilot houses of the municipal ferry. It is more likely to get its helmsmen from the League of American Wheelmen.

An inquirer wants to know why a professor of Latin and Greek should not become a capable superintendent of a municipal cemetery. We see no good reason why he shouldn't, except that his familiarity with dead languages would be apt to put him on such chatty terms with his tenants that he would neglect his business.

A friend of ours has discovered that this talk about depreciation in street car lines is all tommyrot in so far as the crossstown lines are concerned anyhow. It is a well known fact, he says, that these lines never run down. They run across. We respectfully submit this argument to their honors the city fathers.

Without wishing to be at all invidious, we would call attention to the interesting acoustic furnished by the Municipal Ownership Bubble, which, strangely enough, signifies the ultimate ownership of public utilities under the municipal ownership idea. Try it and see:

### Municipal Ownership Bubble.

A Detroit alderman wants Detroit to go into the making of bricks. In a recent speech he declared that "we are in the grasp of the brick trust, when we could reduce prices 100 per cent if we could manufacture our own brick." It is a pity the learned gentleman could not have figured out a reduction of 110 per cent, for then Detroit could have made bricks not only for nothing, but could a premium of 10 per cent as well. The free cologne of bricks would be an interesting economic diversion.

A request for the last annual report of the municipal electric light plant in a Michigan town of less than 2,000 inhabitants elicited from the manager the laconic reply, "About three thousand in the hole last year." The situation can be relieved, however, by the prompt action of the common council in passing an appropriation of \$3,500 for the purpose of the hole on behalf of the park department, thus showing a profit of \$500 on the books of the lighting commission.

The municipal pawnshop of Liege, Belgium, is not as popular as it was expected to be. The hope that being conducted for the people by the people to lend money as the collateral of the people a man could borrow \$500 on \$4.50 worth of jewelry has not been realized.

A French Telephone Experience. The San Francisco Chronicle is responsible for the following item in regard to Nantes, France: Some years ago there was a private telephone system which the paternal government took over. After some years' trial the government has just received a petition signed by 10,000 persons, each of whom pays at least \$80 a year for telephone service, requesting that the telephone system be sold to some private company, because under a private company they got far better service, were treated with politeness instead of insolence and had complaints attended to instead of being ignored.

British Lighting Plants Sold. By a vote of 41 to 2 the Bath city corporation has decided to sell the municipal lighting plant, which it purchased in 1896. As this had been run at a loss, even without allowing for depreciation, the sale will result in an immediate reduction of local taxes.

The Irish Independent states: "The Bray urban council have decided to offer for sale their electric light works, which have been run at a very heavy loss, while the cost of public lighting was in excess of that of Dublin, although the lamps were only lighted for a third of the time they were in the metropolis." The Dublin municipal plant, however, was run at a loss last year of over \$20,000, irrespective of depreciation, which would have brought the loss up to \$30,000.

A Losing Game. The city council of England, Ark., has passed an ordinance leasing the municipal electric light and water plants for six years. An inquiry as to the cause of this action brought the following reply: "The reason that the town wanted to lease these was because for it to operate them was a losing game, and it could not afford it."

The Telephone in Greece. According to the United States consul at Athens, the telephone service in Greece is restricted, bad and a source of loss to the government. He believes that private enterprise, if well backed financially, could obtain a favorable concession from the Greek parliament on condition it undertook to install and work an efficient system. —Electrical Times.

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